

March 27, 1984

LB 1034

Patrol. Like the State Patrol officers, the conservation officers are also peace officers for the state. The Nebraska Department of Personnel has placed the conservation officers in the same salary grades as officers of the State Patrol. In short, the responsibilities of the conservation officers and the State Patrol officers are very similar. The deputy sheriffs...the conservation officers are considered deputy sheriffs. There is about 58 of them. Their stress factors is the same as the State Patrol. They work on weekends and, incidentally, they work 50 hours as compared to the 45 hours a week for the State Patrol. And, virtually, all the people they encounter during their work during the hunting season are gun carriers and the state troopers can retire at the age of 55 but the conservation officers have to work until they are 65. They are responsible for very large areas in the State of Nebraska, sometimes as many as 6 counties and their salary in the past has been the same as the State Patrol. And I am sorry I didn't bring this amendment in at the time Senator Beyer had his amendment to increase the State Patrol officers' salaries but the conservation officers did visit with me a couple of days later and urged me to find a bill somewhere so that we could bring the conservation officers back up to the same salary as they have been in the past as the state troopers and I urge the adoption of this amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, is the motion to suspend the rules because of lack of germaneness?

SENATOR CLARK: Pardon?

SENATOR WARNER: Is the question whether to suspend the rule because of...

SENATOR CLARK: No, the question is the amendment only right now unless you want to question the germaneness.

SENATOR WARNER: I would request the Chair to rule as was done on this bill the other day whether or not it is